

**CURRICULUM PLAN FOR DOCTORAL DEGREES IN ANTHROPOLOGY**  
**SCHOOL OF HUMAN EVOLUTION AND SOCIAL CHANGE**  
**ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
*Expected implementation: Fall 2005*

**Overview**

The school will have a single graduate curriculum that is sufficiently flexible to accommodate all students seeking graduate degrees in Anthropology within the School. Additional degree programs (which would require ABOR approval) may be developed later, as the School faculty grows. All students will be required to take at least three courses outside of their primary subdiscipline/academic concentration. Specific programs of study will be designed by the student and his/her committee consonant with the student's goals and needs. *Thus all students will receive broad training, and interdisciplinary training will be encouraged and facilitated.*

**General Course Requirements for MA/PhD**

The following graduate level course requirements apply to all students who enter the School with the goal of earning a PhD in Anthropology.

- **One** school-wide course in scholarly inquiry, taken in the student's first year.
- **One** or more methods/analysis courses.
- **Three** or more courses outside of the student's primary academic concentration. Sample tracks include, but are not restricted to the following:
  - ***Disciplinary:*** Three courses in the various subdisciplines of anthropology (e.g., a socio-cultural student might take three courses in archaeology and physical anthropology).
  - ***Minor field:*** Three courses in a single area of study other than the student's own (e.g., an archaeology student might take three courses in geology).
  - ***Interdisciplinary concentration:*** Three courses in other disciplines or subdisciplines that provide an interdisciplinary perspective on a student's chosen subject (e.g., a physical anthropology student interested in early hominids might take a courses on Pleistocene archaeology (within SHESC) and on human anatomy/physiology (in other departments).
- **One** research design, professionalism, and ethics course, taken in Phase II.

**Phase I, MA (30 hours)**

Students who enter the program without an MA begin in Phase I. Receipt of an MA is the culmination of Phase I.

**Program objectives:** Develop specific area of expertise; build broad knowledge of other fields/concentrations; develop skills as researcher.

**Supervisory Committee:** Within the first year, ideally in the first semester, the student selects a supervisory committee consisting of three or more faculty members, with a majority of faculty within the school. The supervisory committee must be approved the SHESH Graduate Committee and the ASU Division of Graduate Studies

**Program of study:** By the end of the second semester, the student, in close consultation with supervisory committee, develops a program of study for Phase I (POS) that addresses the course requirements listed above as well as the research paper requirement listed below. In accordance with DGS policies, the POS must include at least 30 hours (which may consist of formal courses as well as independent study hours).

**Research skills portfolio:** The student writes at least two research papers that demonstrate the ability to systematically gather analyze and interpret anthropological data, and present the results in a form that could be published in a professional book, journal, or exhibit. Such papers are written in the context of courses taken to meet the MA requirements. At least one of these papers must be single authored.

**Presentation of Research:** Students present one of the research papers in a School-wide research symposium, held at the end of each academic year.

**Timeline:** The MA should be completed within four semesters.

**Award of MA:** Upon completion of the MA Program of Study with a grade point average of at least 3.2, research skills portfolio, and presentation of research, the student is granted a Masters-in-Passing.

**Evaluation of passing from MA to PhD Program.** Continuation to the PhD program is conditioned on an evaluation of the extent to which the student's progress, research portfolio, and coursework demonstrate the research skills necessary to continue toward a PhD. The evaluation is done immediately following the research symposium at the end of the student's second year. Evaluation is done by a subcommittee approved by the graduate committee and consisting of three faculty members including the student's MA chair and two other SHESC faculty members not on the students' MA committee; at least one of the two other faculty should be in the student's academic concentration. This committee will make a recommendation on continuation to the academic concentration, which will then make a recommendation to the Graduate Committee.

### **Phase II: PhD (30 hours coursework, 24 hours research)**

**Program objectives:** Develop in-depth expertise in a School research area, learn methods of the academic concentration(s) most relevant for research focus, receive broad and/or interdisciplinary training compatible with the research area, develop the skills to train students at a college/university level, and become an expert scholar/researcher able to contribute to the field.

***Program of Study*** By the end of the first semester, the student develops a program of study (POS) for Phase II that addresses all the course requirements listed above and not fulfilled as a part of the MA course work at ASU. The program of study must be approved by the student's supervisory committee. In accordance with DGS policies, the POS must include at least 54 post-MA hours, including (a) 30 hours of coursework or independent study prior to candidacy, and (b) 24 research/dissertation hours, at least 12 of which must be taken during candidacy. Foreign language requirements, if applicable, must be taken prior to advancement to candidacy.

***Doctoral Examination:***

- During Phase II, the student prepares for and takes a doctoral examination and prepares and orally defends a dissertation proposal. These two steps are formally considered to constitute the written and oral doctoral examination required by the DGS.
- **Bibliography:** The student prepares a research statement (1-2 pages) and relevant bibliography approved by his/her committee.
- **Exam:** Student completes a written examination, designed for them by his/her committee and based on the research statement and bibliography.
- **Proposal:** Student prepares a dissertation proposal (NSF, NEH, NIH or other relevant format), which is approved by the supervisory committee and followed by an oral defense with committee members, along with an open oral presentation.

***Timeline:*** The examination should be completed by the end of the student's fourth semester in Phase II. All coursework (30 hours) and the proposal should be completed by the end of the student's sixth semester in the PhD program

***Advancement to Candidacy:*** Upon completion of 30 hours of coursework, any applicable foreign language requirements, doctoral exams, and dissertation proposal, the student is advanced to candidacy.

**Candidacy**

- Students must take at least 12 of the 24 research/dissertation hours (during which they undertake their doctoral research), after their advancement to candidacy.
- Students write a dissertation, which must be approved by their supervisory committee.
- The culmination of the PhD is the public oral defense of the dissertation.

***Teaching Experience:*** PhD students are strongly encouraged to develop skills and experience teaching at the college/university level by participating in the (Departmental/School) Graduate Mentorship Training Program, the (University) Preparing Future Faculty Program, and/or other post-secondary teaching.

***Award of the PhD:*** Upon completion of the 24 research hours and satisfactory defense of the dissertation, students are awarded a PhD in Anthropology.